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GENERAL AND COMPLETE DISARMAMENT

Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, Egypt, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Mexico, Nigeria, United Republic of Tanzania and Zimbabwe: revised draft resolution

Step-by-step reduction of the nuclear threat

The General Assembly,

Bearing in mind the goal of the total elimination of nuclear weapons,

Desiring to reduce, progressively and systematically, the threat posed by nuclear weapons,

Welcoming the respite from the intense competition in the accumulation of weapon-grade fissile materials, in the production of nuclear warheads and in the deployment of nuclear-weapon systems which characterized the cold war,

Mindful that processing of special fissionable material for weapon purposes and production of nuclear warheads continues at a steady pace in some States, and that many thousands of nuclear-weapon systems remain deployed at the brink of war,

Welcoming also the standing down of some nuclear-weapon systems from full alert and the elimination of certain types of weapons,

Mindful also that the military doctrines regarding the threat of use of nuclear weapons remain unaltered, and that most agreed reductions do not entail destruction of the nuclear warheads or delivery vehicles,

Welcoming further the steps taken to increase transparency in armaments and the emerging pattern of closing or converting nuclear-weapon production facilities,

Mindful further of the continuing lack of internationally verified inventories of the nuclear arsenals and that plans for the redirection of nuclear-weapon facilities to the task of dismantlement of the nuclear arsenals are only at an early state of development,

Wishing to further current efforts regarding multilateral negotiations and agreements, and conscious of the urgent need for expeditious action for this purpose,

Confident that the Conference on Disarmament can serve as an effective multilateral disarmament negotiating forum, as envisioned at its 1978 special session devoted to disarmament 1/ and as evidenced recently by the successful conclusion of the chemical weapons Convention, 2/

Persuaded that agreement upon a five- to ten-year agenda on nuclear arms control would provide a needed, overall sense of direction to global disarmament efforts,

Convinced that the successful pursuit of such an agenda would significantly advance the goal of the elimination of nuclear weapons from national arsenals,

1. Identifies the following general areas for step-by-step reduction of the nuclear threat:

Area A. Steps to counter, inter alia:

(a) The acquisition and processing of special fissionable material for nuclear-weapon purposes;

(b) The manufacture and testing of nuclear warheads and their delivery vehicles;

(c) The assembly and deployment of nuclear-weapon systems;

by such means as:

(i) Prohibiting the test explosion of nuclear weapons;

(ii) Cutting off the production of special fissile materials for weapon purposes;

1/ Resolution S-10/2, para. 120.

2/ Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction; see Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 27 (A/47/27), appendix I.

(iii) Ending production of nuclear warheads;

(iv) Ending the production and testing of intermediate- and long-range ballistic missiles for nuclear-weapon purposes;

(v) Effective legally binding measures to deter the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons;

(vi) Other related measures;

Area B. Steps to actuate, inter alia:

(a) The withdrawal from deployment and disassembly of nuclear-weapon systems;

(b) The secure storage and dismantlement of nuclear warheads and their delivery vehicles;

(c) The elimination of special fissionable materials for nuclear-weapon purposes;

by such means as:

(i) Standing down nuclear-weapon systems from high-alert status;

(ii) Separating nuclear warheads from their delivery vehicles;

(iii) Placing nuclear warheads in secure storage;

(iv) Converting delivery vehicles, where appropriate, to peaceful uses;

(v) Removing special nuclear materials from warheads;

(vi) Converting special nuclear materials to non-weapon purposes;

(vii) Other related measures;

Area C. Steps to prepare, under international auspices:

(a) An inventory of the nuclear arsenals, including:

(i) All special fissile materials, nuclear warheads and their delivery vehicles;

(ii) All facilities devoted to the processing, manufacture, assembly and deployment of those items;

(b) A reorientation of those facilities necessary to the task of implementing measures relating to area B;

(c) The closure or conversion to peaceful purposes of all other such facilities in furtherance of measures relating to area A;

2. Asks Member States, in particular the nuclear-weapon States, to consider steps which they might take unilaterally, bilaterally, or in cooperation with other States to promote progress in the identified areas, and fully to inform the international community of any steps taken in this regard;

3. Recommends to the Conference on Disarmament that in 1995 it:

(a) Develop from the three general areas identified in paragraph 1 of the present resolution a comprehensive set of practical, verifiable measures for possible negotiation in their next five- and ten-year periods;

(b) Determine from that set a year-by-year sequence and combination of negotiations on specific measures to be commenced during the next five- and ten-year periods, with due regard to steps taken pursuant to paragraph 2;

4. Requests the Conference on Disarmament to include in its 1995 report to the General Assembly a section on efforts undertaken in accordance with the recommendation set out in paragraph 3;

5. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its fiftieth session an item entitled "Step-by-step reduction of the nuclear threat".